IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors:

S. KIKUYAMA, et al. Prior Art Unit:

Prior Examiner: J. Mercado

Application No.: Divi. Appn. of

Serial No. 09/234,294, filed January 21, 1999

Filed:

July 24, 2001

For: HYDROGEN-ABSORBING ALLOY FOR BATTERY, METHOD FOR PRODUCING

THE SAME, AND ALKALINE STORAGE BATTERY USING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

After grant of a filing date, please amend the above-

captioned application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Before the first line, insert -- This is a division of

application Serial No. 09/234,294, filed January 21, 1999.--

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 9, 10, and 17.

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REMARKS

This divisional application of parent application 09/234,294 is directed to original claims 2-8, and 11-16.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 24, 2001

James E. Ledbetter

Registration No. 28,732

JEL/ejw
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